

Remarks

The claims of the instant application have been amended to further clarify Applicant's invention to allow the instant application to proceed forward as quickly as possible with allowance of subject matter that is important to the Applicant's invention. Notwithstanding, the Applicant reserves the right to traverse the Examiner's prior art rejections in a separate continuation application that is intended to be filed based upon the instant application.

The Examiner asserts that Dobler combined with Zolnerovich renders the present invention obvious. Dobler, however, teaches an optical method that detects a target attached to the elevator car rail. The optical sensor shines light energy onto the rail and senses a reflection to determine when the elevator car comes in proximity to the optical rail target. Because of the light beam characteristics, the accuracy of optical systems of this type is poor. Zolnerovich, a hybrid electrical/mechanical system, derives measurements such as elevator car velocity from a sensor attached to the governor cable's sheave installed in the machine room. Elevator car leveling signals are sensed through a complicated system of transmitting and receiving antenna coils (i.e. magnetic radiation). Floor position is tracked through a series of flip/flops that are activated as the elevator car passes the antenna's radiation. Floor number verification is achieved through a bar card reader. The car code is installed on the elevator hall door and is sensed when the elevator car door is opened and closed. The car code reader's signal is used to correct the car floor position when the system loses track of the elevator car's floor location.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 2 and 4 to clarify that magnetic fields are sensed by Hall Effect sensors. None of the cited references teach or suggest such sensing in any manner.

Unlike the cited art, The present invention provides for a clean and high degree of sensitivity due to precise positioning of the sensor in relation with the rail and the elevator car.

Applicant has also added new claims 5-7 directed to the use of a follower wheel attached to the elevator car. The following wheel includes an encoder ring used in connection with the targets, used to sense the desired information. None of the cited art teach or suggest the use of such a follower wheel or encoder ring. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that it has overcome the Examiner's objections.

Conclusion

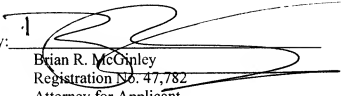
Reconsideration of the application in light of this response is respectfully requested. Should any fees be necessitated by this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any such fees from Deposit Account No. 19-3140. Should the Examiner have any questions s/he is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Connie Mills